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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of: HOEKSTRA et al.

Application No.: 09/385,918

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: August 30, 1999

Examiner: Andres, J.

For: METHODS FOR MODULATING SIGNAL
TRANSDUCTION MEDIATED BY TGF-B AND
RELATED PROTEINS

Attorney Docket No.: 10624-048

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

OKAY TO
ENTER
2/27/02

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Final Office Action dated August 8, 2001, Applicants request the Examiner's consideration of the remarks below which are intended to place the claims into condition for allowance. Applicants submit concurrently herewith (1) a Petition for Extension of Time for three months from November 8, 2001 up to and including February 8, 2002 with the appropriate fee; (2) a Declaration of the Inventors under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, accompanied by a cover letter and a draft for the present application; and (3) a Notice of Appeal.

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending. The Examiner's objection to claim 1 for containing language encompassing a non-elected species of the invention has been withdrawn. The Examiner's rejections of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs, for lack of enablement and as being indefinite, respectively, have been withdrawn. The sole remaining issue is related to the rejection of claims 1 and 3-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).